

Message Text

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15

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 DHA-02 ORM-02 VO-03 CIAE-00 FBIE-00

INSE-00 NSAE-00 SCA-01 H-01 USIA-06 L-03 /031 W

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P 080650Z DEC 76

FM AMEMBASSY SOFIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2087

C O N F I D E N T I A L SOFIA 2584

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM, CGEN, PFOR, BU (MAREVA, RUMYANA AND YORDANKA)

SUBJECT: DIVIDED FAMILY CASE: RUMYANA AND YORDANKA MAREVA

REF: A) STATE 294444, B) SOFIA 2429, C) SOFIA 2230

1. AFTER SUBMISSION OF NOTE TO GOB MFA ON NOVEMBER 12, EMBASSY HAS ATTEMPTED TO NUDGE CASE ALONG THROUGH INFORMAL CHANNELS AT MFA CONSULAR DEPT.

2. THIS WAS NOT SUCCESSFUL AND ON DECEMBER 7 EMBASSY LEARNED THROUGH SAME INFORMAL CHANNEL THAT MAREVA CHILDREN HAVE ONCE AGAIN BEEN REFUSED EXIT PERMISSION AND PASSPORTS BECAUSE: (A) PARENTS LEFT BULGARIA ILLEGALLY; (B) CHILDREN ARE BEING WELL CARED FOR BY BULGARIAN GOVERNMENT; (C) ACTIVITIES OF PARENTS IN WASHINGTON SHOW THEY, AS BULGARIANS, "DO NOT HOLD THEIR COUNTRY IN RESPECT." THIS SAME INFORMAL CHANNEL STATES BULGARIAN EMBASSY WASHINGTON RECEIVED NOTE ON MAREVA CASE SIMILAR TO EMBASSY'S TO MFA AND HAS BEEN INSTRUCTED TO RESPOND AS ABOVE.

3. ALTHOUGH WE HAD HOPED TO AVOID POLITICAL CONFRONTATION OVER THIS CASE AND TO HANDLE AS "ROUTINE CONSULAR MATTER," THIS NOW NO LONGER POSSIBLE. WE ARE SEEKING EARLY APPOINTMENT FOR CONSUL WITH DEPUTY DIRECTOR OF CONSULAR DEPARTMENT. EXPECT ONLY TO LEARN FORMALLY WHAT WE HAVE LEARNED ALREADY THROUGH INFORMAL CHANNEL, BUT IS NECESSARY SINCE WHAT WE HAVE HEARD INFORMALLY FROM OUR CONTACT, WHILE PROBABLY AUTHENTIC, CANNOT BE USED AS BASIS FOR FURTHER ACTION. AFTER OBTAINING FORMAL INFORMATION, EMBASSY WILL SEEK APPOINTMENT WITH DIRECTOR MFA FOURTH DEPT. TO RAISE QUESTION AT HIGHER POLITICAL LEVEL.

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4. AT THIS POINT, IT LOOKS VERY MUCH AS THOUGH WE WILL HAVE TO
REPEAT SAME PATTERN OF REPRESENTATIONS USED IN COLLINS CASE.
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